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Spring Vacation

THE BLOTTER

March 21-April 2

Vol. XXVIII, No. 5 | The Berkeley Institute, Brooklyn, New York | March 4, 1963

Events at B. I.

As in previous years, the Junior Guild sold heart-shaped stamps to be used on Valentines that were distributed on February 14. The money collected went to the Heart Fund.

Just before Spring vacation, the Junior Guild will sponsor a Spring Party in the big gymnasium. As in past years, there will be class booths offering goods for sale and games to play, a costume party for the Lower School, and refreshments. Carol Sawade, junior, who is the vice-president of The Junior Guild, is the chairman of the party.

Three Upper School girls received letters in athletics in the February 14 assembly. Doralyn Fonte, a senior, was presented with an "I" for a completion of sixty points in athletics. At present Doralyn is the badminton manager. Patricia Hummer, a junior, received the letter "B" for a completion of thirty points. This year she is the basketball manager. Karla Berlin, also a junior, was presented with a "B" in assembly. Karla is Secretary-Treasurer of the Athletic Association.

Elizabeth Dore, Regina Gambert, and Valerie Hallenbeck were winners of New York State Regents Scholarships. Laurie Spitz is an alternate.

On February 13, Miss Marguerite Reid of the admissions board, told grades ten through twelve about Milwaukee-Downer College. Milwaukee-Downer is a small, liberal arts college for women, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The seventh grade was informally welcomed to the Upper School Wednesday, February 13. The eighth grade held a surprise, "get acquainted" party for them in the gymnasium. After being served refreshments, the two grades played games. This event gave the seventh grade a preview look at Berkeley's social functions.

The Freshman class celebrated Valentine's Day with a cake sale. It was held in the cafeteria at three o'clock. The money collected, approximately twenty-eight dollars, was donated to the Junior Guild.

The Upper School Assembly of February 14 was a musical one given by Dora Herwig and Gilbert Solomon. Mr. Solomon received his musical education at the Manhattan School of Music. He is a violin maker, and a professional violinist as well. He toured in Canada and the United States for several years with the Baroque Ensemble. Mrs. Herwig studied at the Juilliard School. She taught at Greenwich House Music School, and has been active as a pianist and ensemble player. She is the mother of Marcia, Class of 1956 at Berkeley.

Mrs. Taylor Joins Faculty

On January twenty-ninth, a new face was seen as the Upper School marched into assembly to begin a new semester. We soon learned that this "new" face was the new English teacher for the ninth and eleventh grades.

Mrs. Dorcas Billings Taylor, an alumna of Vassar College, now lives in Brooklyn Heights. In High School, Mrs. Taylor was an active member of the student council and was on the yearbook staff. While at Vassar, she also served on the student council and sang in the choir. Before coming to Brooklyn, Mrs. Taylor studied choral conducting at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. She also has taught English in the Tonawanda High School, outside Buffalo.

Mrs. Taylor enjoys reading literary criticisms, the novels of such writers as John Updike and Philip Roth, the plays of George Bernard Shaw, and such diverse poetry as that of Robert Frost, John Keats, and the Haiku School of Japanese poetry.

Mrs. Taylor is presently studying Spanish and hopes to travel in Spain to build her knowledge of the language so that she can eventually read *Don Quixote* in Spanish. Mrs. Taylor "attempts to exhaust New York" by walking, discovering new plays, going to the Opera, and seeing whatever she thinks needs to be seen. "I have yet to see Lincoln Center."

Commenting on Berkeley, Mrs. Taylor said, "I am most impressed by the enthusiasm about reading, and am pleased by the girls' conscientiousness; they take initiative. I am very much interested in *The Blotter* and have already sent a copy to the Tonawanda High School. They have a much larger staff on their school newspaper, and I thought they would like to see how well Berkeley's paper can manage with few people."

Students Give Views On Conference

From February 1-3 seven Berkeley students, accompanied by Mrs. Opal Cant and Miss Sarah Holben, attended the Buck Hill Falls Religious Conference. They were among the 360 students from about 40 independent schools in the New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania area who came to discuss the topic "God, Creator or Created."

Below are some of the students' views on the Conference:

Doralyn Fonte, Grade 12: "I found the discussion groups gave me the opportunity to express myself."

Cheryl Putnam, Grade 12: "It has given me a greater understanding of other peoples' religions."

Patricia Hummer, Grade 11: "It's one of the nicest ways to meet new people."

Jane Hunter, Grade 11: "It was an extremely profitable weekend, from all aspects."

Lower School Events

The Lower School has recently begun a new semester. The first grade took a trip last week to the Brooklyn Children's Museum where they were given a lecture on pets.

Mrs. Kohlmeyer's second grade class presented a Valentine's Day Assembly on February 14. Two children performed a pantomime while their classmates read the Legend of the Blue Willow. This legend has to do with a type of chinaware, white with dark blue patterns. The design on the china is supposed to tell a story.

Mrs. Tate's third grade class is studying various Indian tribes in North America and is making Indian costumes. On February 28th the class gave an assembly about the North American continent before the white man came.

Mrs. Blum's and Mrs. Federman's fifth grade classes took a trip to the Hayden Planetarium on February 14th, where they learned more about astronomy at a show called "The Seven Wondrous Stars." At present the fifth grades are studying the Revolutionary War and are reading and writing Revolutionary poetry.

Mrs. MacGregor's and Mrs. Lumb's sixth grade classes have recently begun to learn library skills in the big library. The classes are using the catalogs and are learning how to use reference books.

College Quartet Visits B. I.

The Upper School assembly of January 24 was a musical one given by four students from Bennington College, Vermont. Barbara von Eckardt, clarinet; Betsy Walker, violin and viola; Nan Newton, violin and piano; and Joan Brainard, piano, made up the quartet. Each girl played extremely well. It was interesting to learn that there were two music majors among them. One is planning to major in political science, and the other has not yet decided on a major.

We learned that the girls were here as part of their nine-week non-resident term in which all Bennington students go out and seek jobs. It is serious work, however, for the college judges them on their success when they return. These four girls, two sophomores, a junior, and one senior, decided early this fall that they would form a quartet and tour from New Hampshire to Virginia during their non-residence period. After weeks of practice, they gave their first concert at Bennington just before Christmas. Berkeley was their seventeenth stop on a schedule of thirty-three concerts. They have already performed in such schools as Emma Willard, the Lenox School in New York City, and Milton Academy.

Infanta To Be Produced

On March 14, the eighth graders, under the direction of Miss Islay Benson, will present *The Infanta's Twelfth Birthday.*

A dramatization of a story written by Oscar Wilde, this classic play has been performed by professionals, and has won many awards.

The Infanta is celebrating her twelfth birthday. Everyone is trying to please her with entertainment. However, she becomes bored by the festivities and leaves. She is brought back again, and becomes interested in the Grotesque. He dances for the Infanta, and pleased, she throws a rose to him. Believing that the Infanta is captivated by him, the Grotesque is overwhelmed with joy. Unfortunately, he now sees himself for the first time in a mirror and is terribly disappointed with his looks. The Infanta insists that he dance for her again, but the Grotesque does not wish to do so. What follows will be seen in the March 14 assembly.

When asked about the performance, Miss Benson said, "It is an unusually difficult play for the eighth grade to tackle, but I believe it will turn out to be something really memorable. The whole class is showing such outstanding eagerness in the production that I am very hopeful of the results."

Cast

Infanta — Lois Gilson
Grotesque — Cassandra Bilotta
Don Pedro — Madelon Antell
Chamberlain — Sue Levin
Carles — Christine Sherman
Two pages — Madelyn Waxman, Wendy Lobo
Children of Nobility — Lila Siouffi, Wendy Hummer, Denise Del Noce, Ann Bailinson, Carol Fritz, Linda Mongello, Susan Brean.

Crew

Stage manager — Karen Bogen
Assistant stage manager — Judy Cohen
Lights — Susan Raber, Linda Niedziela, Ginny James
Curtain — Irene Butler
Prompter — Ronnie Snyder
Music — Mackie Ariola, Marie Scarlino
Props and costume manager — Judy Hau

New Trustee

The Board of Trustees of the Berkeley Institute announces the election of E. Vincent Curtayne as a trustee.

A graduate of Fordham College and Fordham Law School, he is a vice president of the Manufacturers' Hanover Trust Company. From 1955 until 1960 he was a member of the New York City Transit Authority with jurisdiction over all financial and real estate phases of operation.

One of Mr. Curtayne's three daughters, Mary, is now a sophomore at the Berkeley Institute.

Robert Frost, America's unofficial Poet Laureate, died this past month. Frost's poems, though often set in New England, are universal in meaning and contain ideas which should always be remembered.

Something There Is That Doesn't Love A Wall

Something there is that doesn't love a wall,
That sends the frozen-ground-swell under it,
And spills the upper boulders in the sun;
And makes gaps even two can pass abreast.
("— *Mending Wall*")

Huge walls of concrete and mortar are constantly being built throughout the world. One was built in China thousands of years ago. One stands in Berlin today. These walls shut out the culture and enlightenment of other lands. They leave the people, behind the wall, ignorant and uncertain of the outside world.

Many students today are doing the same thing: building a wall around themselves. This wall is not made of cement. It is constructed of bigotry and ignorance. Even though it is intangible, it is hard to tear down.

We should not move "in darkness" like "an old-stone savage." We should tear down our walls of prejudice. As Frost makes clear "good fences" do *not* "make good neighbors."

Choose Something Like A Star

So when at times the mob is swayed
To carry praise or blame too far,
We may choose something like a star
To stay our minds on and be staid.
(—"*Choose Something Like a Star*")

The world today is inconsistent. Just as modes of dress quickly change, so do ideas and standards. Honor and courage are quickly abandoned for blind violence and deceit. Mob rule is substituted for independent thinking.

In France, during the Revolution of 1789, in Spain, during the Inquisition, and in Germany, during the Third Reich, the ideals of moderation, temperance, and clear, just thinking were forgotten. Today, in Algeria, in the Congo, in Oxford, Mississippi, and in the extremist organizations that plague the world, noble ideas are also being put aside for baser ones.

Lack of steadfastness has often plagued man. Now, during these times of stress and uncertainty, we must try to be true to our beliefs. We must not be swayed by the hysteria which feeds on ignorance and hatred. We should "choose something like a star to stay our minds on and be staid."

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Review

Last month, the City Center played host to the French mime, Marcel Marceau. He presented a program of sketches which he had chosen from his repertoire and which varied greatly in composition and length.

Mime is the art of clearly presenting an action or situation without the use of words or elaborate costuming and props. Marceau is the foremost living actor in this field. He works alone, with great concentration and precision. Clothed in a sailor-type of outfit for all routines, in his sketches as the clown BIP, he employs an outsized hat.

The program that I attended had many outstanding sequences. In "The Cage," he portrayed a person caught in a rapidly shrinking rectangular room. His technique was so perfect that the viewer could see the walls about him, and feel in himself the horror of being imprisoned. Another, "Contrasts," was composed of a rapid succession of sketches showing different aspects of carnival life, a hanging, and further carnival sketches. Considering the fact that a mime changes his entire body feeling, as well as his expression, for each of his roles, this sketch becomes all the more remarkable.

Skipping over many others of equal note, we come to Marceau's final piece, "The Maskmaker." A maskmaker is shown trying on his various masks. The mask of laughter becomes fixed on his face and will not come off. First sorrowful, then frantic, Marceau tries to remove the ridiculous grin from his face, only to succeed after almost giving up.

It is impossible to describe the detail and precision of Marcel Marceau's work. Using thin air, his own body, and his audience's perception, he is capable of producing a universe of settings and emotions. He is a true artist.

— *Helen Epps,*
Grade 11

The Giraffe

Miss Pamela Fairchild, on her sister's behalf,
Once asked her dear mother for a pet giraffe.
"What!" cried her mother, who was simply astounded.
"No giraffes," said her father, and he added, "Confound it,
This home is a zoo, and I feel ill at ease,
Your raccoon makes me laugh, and your skunk makes me sneeze.
Now no more about it, I'm tired of this issue;
And I see your pet skunk, so please hand me a tissue."
Pamela said that night in her prayers,
"We're tired of rag dolls and teddy bears.
There's just one thing to do, to get our dear pet,
So I'll take my umbrella and my sister Jeannette.
We'll go out with the moon and come back with sunrise,

(*Continued on page* 4, *col.* 2)

Nothing Gold Can Stay

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold. . . .
So dawn goes down to day,
Nothing gold can stay.
("Nothing gold can stay")

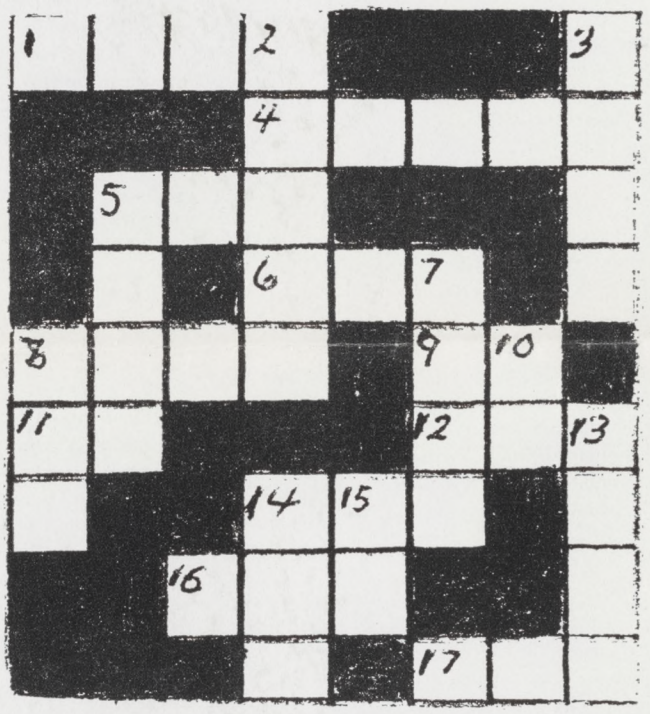
Nothing lasts forever. Time is a thief who quickly and easily steals away our life. Soon we will be in the midst of adulthood. We shall look back on our childhood. What will we see? Will we see dreams, plannings to do things, empty aspirations? Or will we see hard-gained effort, work, enthusiasm, attempts?

Too many times, Time passes unknowingly. We procrastinate, and thousands of minutes tick by. We dream of the prince in shining armor, and more precious seconds elapse. Not realizing that *today* will soon be *tomorrow,* we think of next year's pleasures. We should always take advantage of the time given us. We should make every minute count.

Often our ignorance of time's swift passage results in apathy and laziness. We forget that there is no time like the present. Often we shirk responsibility with the idea that there is always another day.

We must realize that our lives are transitory. Our youth, like "Nature's first green," does not last forever.

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. Stone
4. An ice house
5. In no manner
6. Part of the head
8. Tiny spots
9. Preposition
11. Inside
12. An electrically charged atom
14. Past Participle of 16 across
16. To move swiftly
17. To steal

DOWN

2. Wooden frames flown in the wind
3. An animal
5. Midday
7. Shower
8. Not bright
10. Preposition
13. Deadened
14. To chafe
15. Article

Interview: Tony Perkins

Anthony Perkins, admired by youngsters and adults alike, gave a mass interview for students from school newspapers, on Saturday, February 16. The interview took place at the new RKO 23rd Street Theater where Mr. Perkins' new film *The Trial* opened to the public on February 20th.

Mr. Perkins was born in New York City. He attended the Grammar School in Brookline, Massachusetts, the Browne and Nichols Prep School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Columbia University. As for his marital status, Mr. Perkins, who is single, says, "I better hurry up and get married, if I get married at all."

When asked whether he preferred making films abroad or in the United States, Mr. Perkins stated that, since "more are being made abroad," it is necessary to be able to work in movies there. This brought up the subject of who the better actresses are, American or foreign women. Mr. Perkins stated that "many of the more exciting actresses do not come from the United States. I just feel that way." He went on to say that "I guess you might say the foreign women make better actresses."

Mr. Perkins said that he felt movies are like "a final exam on a course." He feels that the theater is like studying that course, since one has to dig in and discover unknown facts. Mr. Perkins, in answer to the question of what he would like to do in the future, stated that he would like to do another play, possibly a musical, but not this year.

When Mr. Perkins was asked what his favorite movie was, his answer was *Psycho*.

The 6 foot 2½ inch Mr. Perkins was asked what he thought of the fad of American fans, usually girls, screaming and fighting for autographs. He first said that this isn't an American fad since it happens the world over. He also added, "It's a bore; it's no fun."

Tony Perkins

When asked his opinion about drama schools, Mr. Perkins said that he doesn't care for drama school. He said that "nothing substitutes for working in the theatre." On the subject of advice for young aspirants, this is what Mr. Perkins said, "Unfortunately, show business is not a career which you can necessarily do well in if you're good. There are wonderful actors and actresses who never get a chance." Mr. Perkins added that "education is a great help. The more education you can get, get it, by all means."

The interview proved to be a great success. Afterwards, Franz Kafka's *The Trial* was shown. This, too, proved to be quite successful. If anyone would like to see a film which is wonderfully performed and very interesting, by all means see *The Trial,* with Anthony Perkins.

— Maxine Siegel,
Grade 11.

Senior Sketches

Slogan — "Will you please wait!"
Envied For — her classic features
Never — without Margie Weiss
Incessantly — combing her hair
Our — weekend commuter to Southold
Resumé — Linda Swanson

Slogan — "Isn't there another way of doing it?"
Envied For — her clothes
Never — without black tights
Incessantly — studying
Our — future doctor
Resumé — Frances Teitler

Slogan — "Allrighty"
Envied For — her femininity
Never — without Peter
Incessantly — batting her eyelashes
Our — Junior Guild representative
Resumé — Jo-Ann Valentino

Slogan — "Eric!"
Envied For — her collection of shoes
Never — without Linda Swanson
Incessantly — eating other peoples' lunches
Our — class secretary
Resumé — Marjorie Weiss

Slogan — "Good Grief!"
Envied For — her athletic ability
Never — quiet
Incessantly — wearing patchwork shirts
Our — A.A. President
Resumé — Maxine Yaffe

B. I. Girls Compete With Other Students

Student athletes from Adelphi, Berkeley Institute, Packer, and Staten Island Academy met at Packer Collegiate Institute, Saturday, February 16th, to participate in Game Day. Representing Berkeley were Maxine Yaffe, Valerie DiBello, Carole Short, Doralyn Fonte, Marianne Rocco, Patricia Hummer, Ann Weber, Ann Del Nunzio, Karla Berlin, and Peggy Strauss.

The students were equipped with lunches and gym suits. They registered on the various lists and had time to exchange greetings. Each list carried the name of but one student from each different school. Thus, an individual team had a representative from each of the schools.

The playing area was the gymnasium. The girls played basketball, volleyball, table tennis, and shot baskets.

Luncheon was served at 12 o'clock in the teachers' cafeteria. At this time, the girls had the opportunity to get better acquainted. Game Day was terminated at 2:00 o'clock.

Game Day, or Packer Play Day as it is also called, does more than encourage physical participation in sports. It develops good sportsmanship and cooperation.

Doralyn Fonte, senior, said, "We all found Game Day a lot of fun. We met other students who enjoyed playing sports as much as we did. We also learned new ways of playing the various games, such as roving basketball."

The National Association of Independent Schools Conference will be held on March 1 and 2 at the Hotel Statler in Manhattan. At this meeting discussion groups will confer on various new trends and methods in the languages, sciences, and mathematics. The Association will also give awards to the ten best adult books for the pre-college student.

Teachers from all over the country will attend this worthwhile conference. The faculty from both the Upper and Lower Schools will attend the various meetings and examine the publishers' exhibits.

What would you compare joy to? A bird skimming over the water? The smile of a boy opening up presents?

The Senior English class has been discussing the uses of metaphors in poetry. The sentences below were written by the twelfth grade. They attribute personal characteristics to abstract emotions and to the months of the year.

"Joy is a flower bursting into velvet petals of softness."

"Contentment is like a baby comfortably cuddled in the arms of its Mother."

"Happiness is the blooming of apple blossoms, the chirping of sparrows, the smell of green grass, and the cries of young children playing in their sand boxes."

"Sadness is the setting of the sun, the whistling of the wind."

"Happiness is the sun shining through the morning mist."

"September resembles Hamlet—the end of little concentration and the beginning of deep thought."

"February is de Gaulle, cold, aloof, and yet with a touch of humor."

"January is like John I of England, stubborn, and fierce, but truly a coward."

"May is like a messenger foretelling summer weather."

"July is a happy, radiant, strong boy, full of warmth and life, running slowly."

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Alumnae-Student Game Tied

The Berkeley Student-Alumnae Basketball Game was held Friday, January 25, in the large gym. Berkeley's student team consisted of Valerie Di Bello, Patty Dragutsky, Helen Epps, Sue Ellen Matorin, Marianne Rocco, Ann Weber, and Maxine Yaffe.

These girls were challenged by Berkeley's eager Alumnae. The team consisted of Linda Alster, '59; Mary Lou Giustra, '60; Ginny McCreery, '62; Meredith Owen, '62; Jamie Robertson, '59; Genevieve Twohig, '61; and Nancy Winkler, '61. Scorekeeper was Alice Hale, '59.

The game proved to be very exciting. The final score was a tie, each team having eleven points. All in all, the game was most enjoyable and all the girls had fun. The alumnae especially enjoyed reminiscing about their past years at Berkeley.

Alumnae Album

Jane Parnes (class of '58), daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Edward Parnes of Brooklyn, was married November 27, 1962, to Mr. Morton Ravin. Jane was a member of the class of '62 at Elmira College.

Claire Ghattas, class of '61, is on the Dean's List at Middlebury College.

Virginia McCreery, class of '62, made the Dean's List at Notre Dame College of Staten Island,

No. 1 Pest

The Giraffe

(*Continued from page 2, col. 2*)

And I'll see my giraffe with my very own eyes."

Pam didn't know of the risk this presented,

But her sister Jeanette wisely dissented.

"You started all this, about a giraffe,

Now I want one too." How Jeanette did laugh!

"You thought I was serious? you silly child!"

And she looked at Pam, and Pam suddenly smiled.

I *will* not give up, she stubbornly thought;

For the things *they* have wanted, so many have fought.

I will fight for *my* cause, I will fight to the end.

I will fight for my pet, for my wonderful friend."

That night she went out to the dark of the wood,

(And she knew she was not doing just as she should.)

Then quite unexpectedly a thunderstorm came.

And Pamela realized this was no game.

It was said to be dangerous, and bad for the health.

(If only she had Jeanette's wisdom and wealth.)

If only she'd listened to her older sister.

Next time listen to Jeanette. Oh, how Pam missed her!)

When she awoke after she had recovered,

She looked all around her and what she discovered!

The family gathered round her, and the whole kitchen staff,

For there at the doorway stood Pam's own giraffe.

— Ronnie Snyder,
Grade 8

Director of Admissions Speaks at B. I.

On Tuesday, February 5, students of grades nine through twelve learned considerably more about college admissions and interviews than perhaps they had previously known. Miss Marjorie Darling, Director of Admissions of Beaver College, Glenside, Pennsylvania, spoke about the future college student, her responsibilities and decisions. Miss Darling posed five questions to the student group: Why do you want to go to college? Are you college material? Which college will suit your needs? What courses do you plan to study? Will you be able to cope with the new personal, social, and academic responsibilities? Her talk was followed by a question-answer period.

Tournaments

In the winter at Berkeley, the girls are very active in sports. During gym classes they are vigorously doing physical fitness exercises, designed to exercise every muscle of the body. These exercises concentrate mainly on posture and carriage.

The after-school sports are basketball, on Tuesdays and Fridays, and badminton and bowling on Thursdays. Bowling attracts quite a large crowd, even though it is open only to juniors and seniors. Basketball of course attracts many, because girls can come either Tuesday or Friday. Everyone is practicing for the basketball games which began on February 26th with a contest between the seniors and the freshmen and another between the sophomores and the juniors. The eighth of March is reserved for an outside game and the class games resume on March 5th when the sophomores play the seniors and the freshmen play the juniors. On the 8th of March the last class game takes place as the seniors compete against the juniors and the sophomores against the freshmen.

The Black and Gold games begin Tuesday, March 12, and will be continued on the 15th. There will be another on the 19th unless one team has won the first two games.

Thus the winter sports season ends for the Berkeley girls. On the 21st of March everyone packs up for spring vacation, to come back to three spring sports: softball, tennis, and archery.

Answers

ACROSS

1. Rock
4. Igloo
5. Not
6. Ear
8. Dots
9. At
11. In
12. Ion
14. Ran
16. Run
17. Rob

DOWN

2. Kites
3. Goat
5. Noon
7. Rain
8. Dim
10. To
13. Numb
14. Rub
15. An

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